

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 POLLUTION/SITUATION REPORT
 Bautsch Gray Mine Site - Removal Polrep



EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



301996

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 Region V**

Subject: POLREP #1
Initial
Bautsch Gray Mine Site
B5TS
Jo Daviess County, IL
Latitude: 42.3574200 Longitude: -90.3985700

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From: Leonard Zintak, On-Scene Coordinator

Date: 9/17/2010

Reporting Period: 09/09/2010 – 09/17/2010

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Site Number:	B5TS	Contract Number:	EP-S5-08-04
D.O. Number:		Action Memo Date:	5/17/2010
Response Authority:	CERCLA	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Response Lead:	EPA	Incident Category:	Removal Action
NPL Status:	Non NPL	Operable Unit:	NA
Mobilization Date:	9/9/2010	Start Date:	9/9/2010
Demob Date:		Completion Date:	
CERCLIS ID:	TBD	RCRIS ID:	TBD
ERNS No.:	NA	State Notification:	Yes
FPN#:	NA	Reimbursable Account #:	NA

1.1.1 Incident Category

Time-Critical Removal Action

1.1.2 Site Description

The approximately 80-acre area of contamination is composed of the remnants of a former lead and zinc mining operation and two residential properties. The main tailings pile area is approximately 55-acres in size and is located on the east side of Blackjack Road. Road ditch areas along Blackjack Road have also been impacted by the contaminated mine tailings as well as residential property. The Bautsch Gray Mine Site is being proposed for the National Priorities List (NPL).

1.1.2.1 Location

The Site is about 4 miles south of Galena, in Jo Daviess County, Illinois. The Site is located in a rural agricultural and residential area and is bordered to the north, south, and east by residential properties and agricultural land, and to the west by Blackjack Road and residential areas. The tailings have been migrating onto the two residential properties to the west of Blackjack Road. The geographical coordinates for the Site are Latitude 42.3574200 and Longitude -90.3985700.

1.1.2.2 Description of Threat

The Site is composed of the remnants of a former lead and zinc mining operation dating back to the early 1900's. Elevated levels of lead and arsenic have been detected in soil and tailings on and around the site. Elevated levels of lead have been found in a residential well adjacent to the site. Also elevated lead levels have been found in drainage ditches along Blackjack Road as well as in nearby Smallpox Creek.

1.1.3 Preliminary Removal Assessment/Removal Site Inspection Results

During the week of October 6 through 8, 2009, U.S. EPA and the START contractor conducted a site assessment (SA) at the Bautsch Gray Site. In summary, U.S. EPA collected 36 surface soil samples and field screened Site soils with an x-ray fluorescence (XRF) instrument (InnovX). Residential well and surface water samples were also taken. Lead and arsenic results exceeding the action levels and cleanup levels were found around the mine tailings pile, in and around the road ditches along Blackjack Rd. and on adjacent residential areas.

2. Current Activities

2.1 Operations Section

2.1.1 Narrative

Work at the Site has begun and includes mobilization of personnel and equipment, creation of a command post and equipment staging area, and creation of site access roads.

2.1.2 Response Actions to Date

The ERRS contractor is continuing mobilization of personnel and equipment, creation of equipment staging area, and earthmoving and compaction on site access roads. This will continue through the following two weeks.

The technical assistance team (START) contractor is conducting Site health and safety oversight as well as assisting with site documentation for cost control, cost recovery, and site restoration purposes. An XRF field screening survey for lead and arsenic in soil on residential property and road ditch areas has been conducted and will continue in contaminated areas.

The initial excavation areas have been marked-off/flagged and underground utility locate has

been completed for the residential property.

The Jo Daviess County Highway Department has provided warning signage along Blackjack Rd. adjacent to the site work zone. The County will also lower the speed limit on Blackjack from 55mph to 40 mph in the vicinity of the site.

2.1.3 Enforcement Activities, Identity of Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs)

The PRPs for the site have installed a reverse osmosis (RO) drinking water filtration system at the home at 746 S. Blackjack Rd. under an Administrative Order by Consent (AOC). Filter installation on the private well was completed in July 2010, and operation and maintenance by the PRPs will continue for two years.

2.1.4 Progress Metrics

It is currently estimated that approximately 2,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be removed from the residential property at 746 S. Blackjack Rd. during the week of September 20, 2010. This soil will be moved to the tailings pile area east of Blackjack Rd.

<i>Waste Stream</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Manifest #</i>	<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Disposal</i>

2.2 Planning Section

2.2.1 Anticipated Activities

Excavation of contaminated soil is to begin on residential property on 09/17/10. This lead and arsenic contaminated soil will be transported across Blackjack Rd to the mine tailings pile during the week of 09/20/10.

2.2.1.1 Planned Response Activities

Removal of contaminated soil from the 746 S. Blackjack Rd. residential property will continue. Clean backfill replacement will occur in the excavated areas after confirmation sampling has been completed and results indicate levels below cleanup objectives. Sampling of the clean backfill occurred on 09/16/10 at the source of the fill (local quarry). A source of clean topsoil is still being located and this topsoil will also be sampled prior to transport to the residential property.

2.2.1.2 Next Steps

Detailed design of the five retention ponds and the storm water diversion ditch and related structures is continuing at the site. Laboratory testing of the properties of the berm and pond materials (tailings) is being conducted by a laboratory in Dubuque, IA. Analysis will include: Proctor Density Tests, Specific Gravity, Moisture Content, Atterburg Limit Tests, Unconfined Compression, Triaxial Compression, and Permeability. A licensed surveyor will be used to determine berm and pond locations and elevations. Cross section design diagrams have been

completed for the four north and northwest sections of the stormwater diversion ditch. Discussions with the Jo Daviess County Highway Dept. continue regarding the layout and construction of Retention Pond #4 and the west section of the stormwater diversion ditch. Blackjack Rd will need to be temporarily closed during installation of large box culverts under the roadway.

2.2.2 Issues

Final storm water drainage design will involve demolition and replacement of a portion of asphalt roadway (Blackjack Rd) in order to install new drainage culverts. This will be coordinated with the Jo Daviess County Highway Department during September and October. Work on the 798 S. Blackjack residential property (Horseshoe-Shaped Tailings Deposition Area) will not likely begin until spring 2011 due to winter weather which would not allow for work to continue. The Bautsch Gray Mine Site is being scored for the NPL.

2.3 Logistics Section

Not applicable.

2.4 Finance Section

2.4.1 Narrative

START Cost to Date include \$80,000.00 for Design and Cost Estimate which was completed prior to Site mobilization.

START field costs will be reported separately from the Design costs in the future.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
ERRS - Cleanup Contractor	\$800,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$760,000.00	95.00%
TAT/START	\$151,000.00	\$149,000.00	\$2,000.00	1.32%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$951,000.00	\$189,000.00	\$762,000.00	80.13%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

2.5 Safety Officer

On September 10, 2010, the site health and safety plan was finalized, and has been signed by site personnel.

2.6 Liaison Officer

Not applicable.

2.7 Information Officer

USEPA and Illinois EPA attended a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jo Daviess County Board on September 7, 2010 and presented to the committee an overview of the cleanup project and a schedule of planned activities.

The Galena Gazette newspaper printed an article about the site on September 15, 2010.

A Public Open House Availability Session is tentatively scheduled for first week in October (actual date and time is TBD).

3. Participating Entities

3.1 Unified Command

Not applicable.

3.2 Cooperating and Assisting Agencies

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (ILEPA)

Jo Daviess County

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

4. Personnel On Site

1 EPA OSC

7 ERRS -- LATA/Kemron and CMC

2 START -- Weston Solutions

5. Definition of Terms

ERRS -- Emergency and Rapid Response Services

ILEPA -- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

OSC -- On-Scene Coordinator

RCRA -- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

START -- Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team

U.S. EPA -- United States Environmental Protection Agency

6. Additional sources of information

6.1 Internet location of additional information/reports

For additional information, please refer to www.epaosc.org/.bautschgraymine.

6.2 Reporting Schedule

The next POLREP (#2) will be submitted next week.

7. Situational Reference Materials

For additional information, please refer to www.epaosc.org/bautschgraymine



